IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Page 22, please amend the second paragraph as follows:

As seen in Figs. 4 and 10, the first actuating assembly 24 can be assembled for operation as a self-contained module through fasteners 124 to reside on one side of the movable closure element 12 by simply translating the module along the line L to against the closure element one side and securing the module thereto through fasteners. Through this translational movement alone, the first actuating assembly and remainder of the lock system components become operably related without any parts thereof being secured together. The latching assembly 16 can be mounted to the movable closure element 12 through fasteners 126. With the first actuating assembly 24 and latching assembly 16 in operative relationship, the free end 30 of the push button actuator 28 aligns with the surface 128 (Fig. 9) of the trip actuator 104. By moving the push button actuator 28 from its normal position into its actuated position, the free end 30 of the push button actuator 28 is caused to move in an actuating path towards and against the trip actuator surface 128. As the push button actuator 28 moves fully through its actuating path through its full anticipated operating range, the trip actuator 104 is repositioned to thereby cause the catch element 74 to change from its first position into its second position, thereby changing the latching assembly 16 from its first state into its second state.

Please amend the paragraph spanning pages 23 and as follows:

According to the invention, the blocking assembly 22 is mounted independently of the first actuating assembly 24 and utilized to selectively block movement of the free end 30 of the push button actuator 28 in its actuating path in a manner that would allow repositioning of the catch element 72 from its first position into its second position. More specifically, as shown in Figs. 4 and 12-15, the blocking assembly 22 includes a plate 146 that is movable between a first/one position, as shown in Fig. 12, and a second/another position, as shown in Fig. 13. With the plate 146 in the first position, the blocking assembly 22 is in a first state, wherein the lock system 10 is in an unlocked state. With the lock system 10 in the unlocked state, the push button actuator 28 can be moved in the actuating path along the line L (Fig. 4) from its normal position into its actuated position to change the state of the latching assembly 16. With the plate 16 in the second position, the push button actuator 28 is blocked from moving through its actuating path to the extent required to cooperate with the latching assembly 16 so as to change the state thereof.